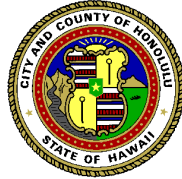


HONOLULU FIRE COMMISSION  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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CHAIR

MAX HANNEMANN  
VICE-CHAIR

DENNIS MORTON

WILLIAM HONG

NICHOLAS TEVES

CRAIG NAGAMINE

DAVID MATLIN

Minutes of Regular Public Meeting  
Honolulu Fire Department Headquarters  
Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium  
Wednesday, November 17, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Nekota called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charlotte Nekota, Max Hannemann, Dennis Morton, William Hong, Nicholas Teves, Craig Nagamine and David Matlin.

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Deputy Fire Chief Sheldon Hao (HFD), Acting Assistant Fire Chief Joseph Kostiha (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Jason Samala (HFD), Battalion Chief John Pacheco (HFD), Acting Assistant Fire Chief Damien Kahaulelio (HFD), Captain Michael O'Sullivan (HFD), Brian Ancheta (Department of the Corporation Counsel), and Nadine Murata. The public was allowed to participate through audio and video-teleconference.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON ALL AGENDA ITEMS.

Chair Nekota asked the public to identify themselves and to keep their testimony brief.

Public testimony began at 10:34 a.m.

Chair Nekota mentioned due to no participation she would like to end public testimony. Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Teves seconded. The public testimony concluded at 10:37 a.m. with 5 listeners.

III. SELECTION PROCESS OF THE FIRE CHIEF.

Chair Nekota mentioned that the Commission will conduct a roll call vote on the Fire Chief candidates, Acting Fire Chief Camara and Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao, in open session to be transparent.

Chair Nekota asked for a motion. Commissioner Morton moved and Vice-Chair Hannemann seconded. There being no further comment and with a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved said motion.

Commission Secretary took the roll call vote at 10:38 a.m.:

Commissioner Nagamine: Hao

Commissioner Teves: Hao

Commissioner Morton: Camara

Commissioner Matlin: <abstain, due to not being a member of the Commission during the earlier selection process>

Commissioner Hong: Camara

Vice-Chair Hannemann: Hao

Chair Nekota: Camara

Chair Nekota proposed that, due to a 3-3 tie, the Commission will restart the selection process to allow the new Commissioner, Commissioner Matlin, to participate in the process.

Chair Nekota asked for a motion, Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Hong seconded. There being no further comment and with a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved said motion.

Commissioner Hong asked Chair Nekota if the Commission will be conducting the same selection process or if there will be changes.

Chair Nekota answered she will coordinate with the Department of Human Resources (DHR).

Upon return to this agenda item, Vice-Chair Hannemann asked for a motion to go into executive session. Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Teves seconded that the Commission go into executive session regarding the selection process of the Fire Chief to “consider the hire, evaluation, dismissal, or discipline of an officer or employee or of charges brought against the officer or employee, where consideration of matter affecting privacy will be involved” [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(2)] and to “consult with the board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities” with regard to these matters [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(4)]. By unanimous vote, the Commission went into executive session at 11:26 a.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 11:44 a.m.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2021.

Chair Nekota called for any comments or corrections to the minutes of October 20, 2021. Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Hong seconded. There being no further

comments or corrections and with a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved the minutes.

V. APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2021.

Chair Nekota called for any comments or corrections to the executive session minutes of October 20, 2021. Commissioner Morton moved and Vice-Chair Hannemann seconded. There being no further comments or corrections and with a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved the minutes.

VI. REPORT OF ACTING FIRE CHIEF. Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao filled in for Acting Fire Chief Camara and passed out the monthly report covering October 2021 and highlighted the following:

A. Major Incidents.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao went over major incidents with the Commission. Details can be found in the monthly report.

1. Fires.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao mentioned that there were 3 structure fires including the surf board rack in Waikiki, and 3 wildland fires.

2. Rescues.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao mentioned that there were 17 rescues.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao mentioned 46% were hikers of which 38% were residents, 43% visitors, and 13% of unknown residency.

3. Hazardous Conditions.

- 40 Stalled elevators
- 10 Downed trees
- 9 Gas leaks
- 6 Downed power lines
- 6 Chemical spills
- 6 Arcing electrical lines

4. Vacancies as of October 31, 2021.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao went over vacancies with the Commission and mentioned the department currently has 96 vacancies.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao mentioned there are 22 fire fighter recruits in training.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao mentioned that an additional 34 recruits had started class as of Monday, November 15.

Commissioner Hong asked how many will retire at the end of the year.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao answered the projection for the year was 60, currently there are 37 and by the end of the year another 20 – 30.

Injuries.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao went over injuries and exposure incidents with the Commission. Details can be found in the monthly report.

5. Grievances.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao mentioned currently there are no filed grievances.

6. Hawaii Fire Fighters Association (HFFA).

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao mentioned that no meetings were held with HFFA in October 2021.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao mentioned that the department continues to conduct consultations and constant communications.

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao also reported on the following:

1. During the month of October, HFD received 2 complimentary correspondence and 1 complaint. Details can be found in the monthly report.
2. Acting Deputy Fire Chief Hao had each member of the executive staff give a brief description of their sections' recent activities.

Commissioner Hong excused himself at 10:50 a.m.

Acting Assistant Fire Chief Joseph Kostiha- Fire Operations. Chief Kostiha went over Fire Operations Fixed Asset Equipment with the Commission.

Chief Kostiha explained what a fixed asset is to the Commission.

Chief Kostiha showcased several pieces of equipment that the department uses during operations.

Chief Kostiha explained what a thermal imager is and how it helps to locate/detect where a fire is burning within a structure on heated and surface objects.

Chief Kostiha mentioned that every vehicle carries a thermal imager.

Chief Kostiha explained what a scooter is and how it's used in rescue for underwater searches.

Chief Kostiha explained what an ID hazardous material detector is and how it's used.

Chief Kostiha mentioned that this device has a library of 15,000 chemical/hazardous materials in memory and it's on each hazmat truck and at training.

Commissioner Matlin asked if the library's gets updated.

Chief Kostiha answered yes, it's an added cost.

Commissioner Morton asked if the libraries memory is for chemical and powder.

Chief Kostiha answered any substance that is liquid or powder.

Commissioner Morton asked about air.

Chief Kostiha answered that would be covered by gas detectors.

Chief Kostiha explained and went over drones with the Commission.

Chief Kostiha mentioned that the department has a drone team and they have conducted 297 missions. The drone team explained to the Commission how drones are used by the department.

Chief Kostiha mentioned that they are used often for wildland fires.

Chief Kostiha mentioned that Rescue will use drones for searches.

Chair Nekota asked how many drones does the department have.

Chief Kostiha answered 2.

Acting Assistant Fire Chief Jeffrey Hooker- Administrative Service. Battalion Chief John Pacheco filled in for Chief Hooker and went over the Status of Capital Improvement Program Projects and Apparatus Procurements with the Commission.

Chief Pacheco went over the department's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with the Commission.

Chief Pacheco mentioned that the CIP helps the department determine how it will repair, renovate, and replace aging infrastructure, facilities and trucks.

Chief Pacheco gave the Commission an insight on the department's three current CIP projects, the Kalihi-Kai, Kahaluu, and Waianae Fire Stations.

Chief Pacheco asked if there were any questions. There was none.

Assistant Fire Chief Jason Samala- Operations. Chief Samala went over Information Technology Projects with the Commission.

Chief Samala highlighted and explained a few technology projects that the department is currently working on .....budget workload, automatic transfer program, and dispatch system.

Chief Samala asked if there were any questions. There was none.

Acting Assistant Fire Chief Damien Kahaulelio- Planning and Development. Chief Kahaulelio went over Community Online Data for Emergency Services with the Commission.

Chief Kahaulelio mentioned that it's an online map base program that the department uses every day.

Captain O'Sullivan presented a PowerPoint document to the Commission.

Captain O'Sullivan explained how the departments Community Online Data for Emergency Services (CODES) program is used and explained its primary job.

Captain O'Sullivan explained to the Commission what Honolulu Online Services for Emergency Services (HOSES) program is and how it's used within the department and through the department's partnership with City agencies and departments.

Captain O'Sullivan asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner Matlin asked who's responsible for updating after an incident.

Captain O'Sullivan answered a report is generated.

Captain O'Sullivan answered it's a planning tool that gathers information and formulates a plan in case of emergencies.

Commissioner Morton asked who puts information on the preplan.

Captain O'Sullivan answered fire fighters.

Commissioner Morton asked what happens if a system is down.

Captain O'Sullivan explained it's inspected annually, and if it fails the inspection, it's the vendor's responsibility to alert the department.

Chief Kahaulelio asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Chair Nekota asked if there were any questions. There were none.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT: The next monthly Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. in the Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Teves seconded that the meeting be adjourned. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned on November 17, 2021 at 11: 44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nadine Murata, Secretary.

APPROVED:

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CHARLOTTE NEKOTA, Chair